

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assigning unique identifiers for allowing communication between a GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) system and a RADIUS (Remote Authentication Dial In User Service) server, the method comprising:

- connecting an external network to the GPRS system and identifying the network with an APN (Access Point Name);
- assigning to the APN external network a gateway address;
- passing an APN-external network authentication request from a GGSN (Gateway GPRS Support Node) to said RADIUS server,
- providing from said RADIUS server to said GGSN upon such request a subscriber IP (Internet Protocol) address to be stored in said GGSN (Gateway GPRS Support Node), said subscriber IP address being unique for the respective APN external network defined in said GGSN,
- using said GGSN for combining the APN gateway address and the subscriber IP address to form a unique subscriber identifier, and
- sending from said GGSN said identifier to the RADIUS server.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein two APN external networks are provided with the same subscriber IP address, but different gateway addresses to yield different APN identifiers.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein two or more subscribers are present in the network, each subscriber being provided with its own subscriber IP address, but the same network gateway address.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the identifier is a code string having as a first element the gateway address of the APN external network and as a second element the subscriber IP address appended thereto.

5. (Previously Presented) The method in claim 1, wherein said identifier is an ASCII string.

6. (Previously Presented) A system for assigning a unique subscriber identifier for a communication between a GPRS (General Packet Radio Service) system and a RADIUS (Remote Authentication Dial In User Service) server, comprising:

B₁ means for connecting an external network to the GPRS system and identifying the external network with an APN (Access Point Name);

means for assigning to a gateway address the APN external network;

means for passing an APN external network authentication request to said RADIUS server;

means for providing from said RADIUS server a subscriber IP (Internet Protocol) address associated with the APN external network;

means for combining the gateway address and the subscriber IP address to form a separate, unique subscriber identifier; and

sending said unique subscriber identifier to the RADIUS server.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 6, wherein two or more APN external networks have the same subscriber IP address but different gateway addresses to yield different unique APN identifiers.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 6, wherein two or more subscribers are present in the external network, and each subscriber has its own subscriber IP address and the same gateway address.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the identifier is a code string having as a first part the gateway address and as a second part the subscriber IP address.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus in claim 6, wherein the identifier is an ASCII string.

B. 11. (Previously Presented) A method for assigning unique identifiers for allowing communication between a packet radio server and a RADIUS (Remote Authentication Dial In User Service) server, the method comprising:

connecting an external network to the packet radio server and identifying the network with an APN (Access Point Name);

assigning a gateway address to the APN external network;

making an authentication request to the RADIUS server,

in response, providing a subscriber IP address;

combining the gateway address and the subscriber IP address to form a unique subscriber identifier; and

sending the unique subscriber identifier to the RADIUS server.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein two APN external networks are provided with a same subscriber IP address and with different gateway addresses to yield different APN identifiers.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein two or more subscribers are present in the APN external network and each subscriber has its own subscriber IP address and the same gateway address.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the identifier is a code string having as a first part the gateway address and as a second part the subscriber IP address.

15. (Previously Presented) The method in claim 11, wherein the identifier is an ASCII string.
